

# Changes in Qualifying for Extra Help in 2007: Materials for Partners and People with Medicare

Medicare wants to ensure that every person with Medicare who qualifies is getting extra help and that people with limited income and resources understand and take advantage of all options for getting help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage.

Some people with Medicare will be affected by changes in their qualifying status for extra help in paying for their Medicare prescription drug coverage costs. People affected by these changes will receive information from Social Security or CMS. These materials provide information important to people affected by these changes. Materials include

- Re-deeming Notice: Communicates loss of extra help (11198)
- Re-deeming Notice: Communicates change in extra help copayment level (11199)
- Partner Fact Sheet: Changes in qualifying for extra help in 2007
- Fact Sheet for People with Medicare: You might still save on your Medicare prescription drug coverage costs even if you don't automatically qualify for extra help (11215)

## **Timeline of Mailings**

### **End of August**

Social Security mailed letters to people who applied and qualified for extra help prior to May 2006 to review their eligibility for qualifying for extra help in 2007.

### Mid to Late September

CMS, in coordination with Social Security, mails loss of extra help (11198) notices to people who no longer automatically qualify for extra help as of January 1, 2007.

#### **Early October**

CMS mails change in extra help copayment level (11199) notices to people who will continue to automatically qualify for extra help in 2007 but whose copayment levels will change as of January 1, 2007.